Sustainability Speaker Series

May 16, 2015
Mindy Lubber
Mindy Lubber spoke at GMC's 178th commencement ceremony. She is one of the world's most influential leaders in harnessing capitalism for positive environmental outcomes. Lubber is the president of Ceres, the leading U.S. coalition of investors and environmental leaders working to improve corporate environmental, social and governance practices. Ceres has succeeded in persuading more than 1000 companies to sign its “Climate Declaration” urging Congress to adopt new laws to combat global warming. She also directs the Investor Network on Climate Risk (INCR), an alliance of more than 100 institutional investors representing over $10 trillion in assets. In 2010, she was honored by the United Nations and the Foundation for Social Change as one of the “World’s Top Leaders of Change.”

April 20, 2015
Dan Fagin
Come to Ackley Auditorium on Monday, April 20th at 4:00 p.m. to hear Professor Fagin discuss his 2014 Pulitzer Prize winning book: Toms River: a Story of Science and Salvation. Dan Fagin is director of the Science, Health, and Environmental Reporting Program at New York University and one of the best investigative journalists working today. His Pulitzer Prize citation refers to Toms River as "a book that deftly combines investigative reporting and historical research to probe a New Jersey seashore town’s cluster of childhood cancers linked to water and air pollution."

March 26, 2015
Dr. Charles Hadlock
Hadlock, a mathematics professor and former dean at Bentley University in Waltham, Mass, has devoted his career to help understand and manage environmental risks. Dr. He is an internationally acclaimed expert on managing environmental risk, will speak March 26 in the Gorge at 7 p.m. He has worked with the EPA to develop regulations for hazardous and radioactive materials, as well as with the City of New York to improve hazardous materials controls in the wake of the September 11 tragedy. Two of his books address environmental issues and risks: Mathematical Modeling in the Environment and Six Sources of Collapse. The insights gained help us better understand environmental and evolutionary processes and, separately, be more effective in negotiating changes in societal behavior.

March 24, 2015
Suleiman Halasah
Join Suleiman Halasah, acting associate director at the Arava Institute Center for Trans-boundary Water Management, for a brief presentation on greywater technology tomorrow
evening. Halash will also provide an overview of the Arava Institute and discuss about how Green Mountain College students can get involved (including study abroad opportunities and internships). The program is Tuesday, March 24 in Terrace, Room 122E at 7:30 p.m. Suleiman is currently pursuing his PhD at Ben Gurion University in solar desalination. An expert on greywater management, he has helped communities across Israel, the West Bank and Jordan steward their scarce water resources.

February 17, 2015
Natasha Bowens
Author and food activist Natasha Bowens presents “The Color of Food: Stories of Race, Resilience and Farming” at 7 p.m. She will meet with MSFS students during their residency February 14-19. Bowen is a writer, activist and an urban farmer who believes food justice is central to many issues facing minority and low-income communities. She left her job in youth advocacy in Washington D.C. to travel the country in search of organic and urban farms sprouting up in food-insecure communities. She is the author of the forthcoming book The Color of Food.

February 16, 2015
Bill McKibben
Renowned Vermont author and activist Bill McKibben gives a public talk on Monday, February 16 at 7 p.m. in the Gorge. He will be on campus to meet with members of the very first Master of Science in Resilient and Sustainable Communities (MMRSC) program during the residency period February 14-17, is the author of The End of Nature, regarded as the first book for a general audience about climate change. He is founder of 350.org, the first planet-wide, grassroots climate change movement. Bowen is the scholar in residence for the College’s Master of Science in Sustainable Food Systems program.

January 21, 2015
Michael Twitty
Food writer and culinary historian Michael Twitty spoke from his experiences growing up in the South, and through the marvelous dishes he creates in the kitchen. His campus visit was a highlight of GMC’s Martin Luther King Day observances. After preparing a campus meal replicating early African-American cuisine on Wednesday evening, Twitty delivered the annual Voices Plenary address in Ackley Hall.

November 6th, 2014
William MacLay
Bill Maclay, founder and president of Maclay Architects, gave a public talk "From Net Zero Buildings to Net Zero Campuses, Communities, and Planet" at Green Mountain College on Thursday, November 6. His appearance was sponsored by the College’s Renewable Energy & Ecological Design (REED) Program. Maclay explored the inspirations and technologies that make net zero buildings a reality today. He also shared his experience pioneering the net zero concept beyond a single building, but a broader campus and community-wide approach for those forward thinking institutions, towns, and states that have fully embraced the sustainability imperative.
October 27th, 2014
Bill McKibben

McKibben is the author of the book Wandering Home, summer reading for first-year students in the college's Images of Nature classes. The book examines McKibben's current (Vermont) and former (New York's Adirondack region) homes and reflects on the hopeful signs he finds in both places. In Vermont he visits with friends trying to sustain traditional ways of living on the land and inventing new ones. After crossing Lake Champlain in a rowboat, he backpacked south for ten days through the Adirondack woods, contemplating the questions that he began to raise in his book The End of Nature: What constitutes the natural? How much human intervention can a place stand before it loses its essence? What does it mean for a place to be truly wild?

The Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, McKibben was the 2013 winner of the Gandhi Prize and the Thomas Merton Prize, and holds honorary degrees from 18 colleges and universities. Foreign Policy named him to their inaugural list of the world's 100 most important global thinkers, and the Boston Globe calls him "probably America's most important environmentalist." McKibben is Green Mountain College's Master of Science in Resilient and Sustainable Communities 2015 Scholar in Residence.

September 18th, 2014
Yola Carlough
Yola Carlough is a senior associate in community development for the B Corporation. She has also served as director of sustainability at Burt's Bees and social mission director at Ben & Jerrys. Her talk was titled "B-Corps - The Power of Business to Solve Social and Environmental Problems". While on campus as a scholar in residence, she also participated in a panel discussion on exploring "Legal & Ethical Challenges and Opportunities for the Sustainable Business Professional".

September 11th, 2014
Bernd Heinrich
Dr. Heinrich is a faculty member at UC Berkeley and the University of Vermont, where he is currently Professor Emeritus. His rich body of research has dealt primarily with understanding how behavioral and physiological adaptations of animals allow them to negotiate their physical environment. He has published 18 books, many of which translate his science for the popular audience.

May 17th, 2014
Senator Patrick Leahy
As President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Senator Patrick Leahy is third in the presidential
line of succession and has held the office since 1975. His voting record includes many pro-environmental and social justice efforts. He delivered the GMC's 177th commencement address, where he spoke about his recent effort to get the US to sign a treaty banning land mines.

April 24th, 2014
Tatiana Abatemarco
Dr. Abatemarco is a Green Mountain College alumnae, who now serves as an Assistant Professor of environmental studies at Paul Smith's College. Her research areas include philosophy and ecofeminism. She delivered a talk entitled: "Women's Sense of Farming: An Ecofeminist Anthropological Project".

April 21st, 2014
Bruce Seifer
Seifer is the co-author of Sustainable Communities--Creating a Durable Local Economy. He served as Assistant Director for Economic Development for the City of Burlington Vermont for 29 years and was a key figure in Burlington's transformation into a model for sustainable development.

April 15th, 2014
Michael H. Shuman
Shuman is an economist, attorney, and author/editor of eight books who spoke as the second annual John F. and Dianne S. Brennan Lecturer. His two most influential books Local Dollars, Local Sense: How to Move Your Money from Wall Street to Main Street and Achieve Real Prosperity and The Small Mart Revolution: How Local Business Are Beating the Global Competition articulate the important role of small businesses and local economies in the face of globalization. His talked was titled "Local Investment: The New Key to Rural Revitalization in Vermont."

February 28th, 2014
Chuck Ross
Chuck Ross is the Vermont Secretary of Agriculture. He spoke about climate resilience and the role that all levels of government can play in response to disasters such as tropical storm Irene.

February 17th, 2014
Douglas Gayeton and Laura Howard Gayeton
The husband-wife team Douglas Gayeton and Laura Howard Gayeton gave a public presentation for the MSFS residency on art, technology and sustainability. The Gayetons have created award-winning films, information artworks, websites, and branding campaigns for a variety of clients including HBO, AOL, MTV, Napster, National Geographic and PBS. They are currently at work on “The Lexicon of Sustainability,” a multimedia art project to tap into the meaning of sustainability as interpreted by thought leaders around the country. The first part of the project is “Food and farming in America.”
November 19th, 2013
Andrew Gunther
Gunther is Program Director for the Animal Welfare Approved (AWA) certification program. He spoke about the concepts of “humane treatment” versus “animal welfare.” He also delivered GMC's new AWA certification for dairy cattle and poultry.

November 6th, 2013
Jan Spencer
Spencer is a well-known permiculture advocate from Eugene, Oregon. As a guest lecturer funded by the Student Campus Greening Fund, he spoke about transforming where we live, including our homes, culture, and economy.

October 10th, 2013
Janisse Ray
Ray is a writer, naturalist, and activist. She holds an MFA and has written five books and a collection of nature poetry. She spoke about seed-saving and GMOs. She has won several book awards including the American Horticulture Society Book Award and the Nautilus Gold Book Award for Better Books for a Better World in 2013.

September 5th, 2013
Robert Michael Pyle
Dr. Pyle is the renowned author of 12 books on the natural sciences. He gave the fall convocation address and spoke in several classes about sustainability, his personal pursuit of nature, and how to thrive in a world facing many ecological crises. First-year students as well as many staff and faculty members read his nonfiction book The Thunder Tree: Lessons from an Urban Wildland.

May 11th, 2013
Dianne Dillon-Ridgley
Dillon-Ridgley is the International Leader in Sustainability, Founding Chair-emeritus of Plains Justice, Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Center for International Environmental Law, National Chair of the Population Connection, Board Member of the Women’s Network for a Sustainable Future, and the only person to serve on all three American delegations to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, the 1997 Earth Summit+5, and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. She spoke at Commencement 2013.

April 24th, 2013
An all-day conference on sustainable development called “Poultney 2020” co-hosted by the College and the Town to build the natural, financial, and social/human capital of the town of Poultney.

April 23rd, 2013
Dr. William Edelglass
Dr. Edelglass, Professor of Philosophy at Marlboro College, spoke on “Green Mountains Walking: Reflections on Buddhism, Embodied Morality, and Places in an Age of Globalization”.

April 18th, 2013
Dr. Alan Goldberg
Dr. Goldberg, Founding Director, Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, spoke on “Food, Animals, Food Animals: Large Scale Livestock Agriculture”.

April 15, 2013
Tom Burrell
Tom Burrell, Marketing & Communications Expert, Author of Brainwashed: Challenging the Myth of Black Inferiority, and Member of the Advertising Hall of Fame, spoke on social justice and race, issues that are central to social sustainability.

April 9, 2013
Peter Forbes
Peter Forbes, Co-Founder for Center for Whole Communities, spoke on whole communities and environmental conflict resolution over land use.

March 26, 2013
Dr. William H. Schlesinger
Dr. Schlesinger, Sophomore Plenary Speaker and President of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies spoke on “Climate Change: Causes, Impacts and What to Do.”

March 19, 2013
Lesely Nase
Lesely Nase, host of Radio Program Books, Yarns & Tales, spoke on Earth Tales for the Storytellers Series.

March 15, 2013
David Hinton
David Hinton, acclaimed Poet and Translator of Chinese Poetry, spoke on "Deep Ecology and Cosmology: Ancient China, Contemporary Vermont".

February 25, 2013
Pliny Fisk III
Pliny Fisk III, Co-director & Founder of Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems, spoke on green building design and sustainable systems.

February 19, 2013
Dr. Neil Conklin
Dr. Conklin, President of the Farm Foundation, spoke on “Developing a Workforce for 21st Century Agriculture”.
February 18, 2013
Helene York
Helene York, a MSFS Scholar in Residence and Director of Purchasing Strategy for Bon Appétit Management, spoke about sustainability food purchasing policy for major food organizations.

January 21, 2013
Migrant Justice Presentation - Migrant farm workers talked about social justice issues related to agriculture and migrant farm workers for Martin Luther King Day.

November 28, 2012
Reel Rock Paddling Film Festival highlighted outdoor water adventure, water and nature conservation.

November 14, 2012
Keith McHenry
Keith McHenry, an artist, author, and Co-founder of Food Not Bombs, spoke on the formation and history of Food, Not Bombs.

September 21, 2012
Artisan Cheese and Craft Cider tasting event featuring local cider producer and regional cheese pairings.

THOMAS L. BENSON LECTURE SERIES
The Benson Lecture Series, named in honor of former Green Mountain College President Thomas L. Benson, aims to bring visionary speakers of national and international significance to the College campus. Benson was president from 1994-2002 and was the architect of the College’s environmental liberal arts mission.

April 25th, 2014
Jonathan Lash
Dr. Lash is the President of Hampshire College and is an internationally recognized expert on practical solutions to global sustainability, climate change, and development challenges. From 1993 to 2011, he was president of World Resources Institute (WRI), a Washington-based environmental think tank focusing on issues ranging from low carbon development to sustainable transportation. He also co-chaired the President's Council on Sustainable Development, a group of government, business, labor, civil rights, and environmental leaders appointed by Bill Clinton that developed visionary recommendations for strategies to promote sustainable development. Prior to WRI, Lash was Vermont Secretary of Natural Resources.

April 18, 2013
Dr. Alan Goldberg
Talk Title: “Animals, Food; Food-Animals”
Goldberg is professor of toxicology and founding director at the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He was a co-author of the important Pew Commission report on industrial farm animal production. The discussion illuminates human attitudes about animals and their roles in research and agriculture.

April 19, 2012
James Gustave "Gus" Speth
Talk Title: “America the Possible: Realizing a New American Dream”
Speth is a professor of law at the Vermont Law School in South Royalton, Vt., and distinguished senior fellow at Demos and the United Nations Foundation. He is the former Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. Dean of the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies at Yale. Speth will also receive an honorary degree from the College.

April 20, 2011
Rick Bass
Talk Title: "The Writer as Activist"
The recipient of grants from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts as well as a Lyndhurst Foundation fellowship, Bass has received an O. Henry Award and a Pushcart Prize, and his fiction has been anthologized in Best American Short Stories as well as numerous journals and magazines.

April 22, 2010
Alan Bean
Talk Title: "Reaching for Your Own Special Star"
Astronaut & artist Alan Bean was the fourth man to set foot on the moon during the Apollo 12 mission in November 1969. He explored the landscape of the Ocean of Storms and later, as commander of Skylab Mission II, spent 59 days in orbit around earth.

April 23, 2009
Carlos Sanchez
Talk Title: “A Global Approach to Conservation”
Associate Veterinarian of the Smithsonian’s National Zoological Park, internationally recognized for pioneering veterinary training programs.

September 27, 2007
James Martin
Talk Title: "The Meaning of the 21st Century"
Author of more than one hundred books including the Pulitzer Prize nominee The Wired Society.

CHELSEA GREEN SERIES
Green Mountain College partners with Chelsea Green Publishing Company for the Green Mountain College-Chelsea Green Speaker Series. With editorial offices in White River
Sustainability
AT GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Jct., Vt., Chelsea Green is a publishing leader for books on the politics and practice of sustainable living.

September 10, 2009
Alan Weisman
Talk Title: "The World Without Us"
Author of *The World Without Us* and *Gaviotas: A Village to Reinvent the World* and a laureate professor of journalism and Latin American Studies at the University of Arizona.

April 1, 2009
Riki Ott
Talk Title: “The Democracy Crisis: Lessons Learned from the Exxon Valdez Disaster"
Author of *Not One Drop*, a commercial salmon "fisher'ama'om," and the founder of three nonprofit organizations.

September 15, 2008
Diane Wilson
Talk Title: "The Courage to Advocate"
Activist and author of *An Unreasonable Woman*.

FAMILY FARM FORUM
The Family Farm Forum is an annual series of talks and open discussions that include farmers and agriculture experts from the community, and scholars from Green Mountain College and other educational, government and non-profit organizations throughout Vermont and the country.

October 19, 2010
Kaido Cruz & VT Migrant Farmer Solidarity Network
Talk Title: "Cultivating Alternatives to Migration: Food Sovereignty on Both Sides of the Border"
Community Organizer for RASA (Autonomous Network for Food Sovereignty) in Oaxaca, Mexico. Sponsored by Witness for Peace.

February 16, 2010
Brian Donahue
Talk Title: "Wildlands, Woodlands, and Farmlands: Natural Infrastructure and Sustainability in New England"
Associate Professor of American Environmental Studies at Brandeis University.
April 29, 2009  
Carl Russell  
**Talk Title:** “Understanding Horses and Oxen as Motive Power for Farming and Forestry”  
Operator of Earthwise Farm and Forest in Bethel, Vt.

April 6, 2009  
Nathan Hagens  
**Talk Title:** “At the Intersection of Neuroscience & Agriculture: The Health & Behavioral Benefits of Relocalization”  
Former Wall Street researcher and investments manager, homesteader in Wisconsin.

November 13, 2008  
Dick Roosenburg  
**Talk Title:** “Powering Small Farms with Oxen and Horses: A Difficult Step Back Eased by New Options”  
Founder of Tillers International.

April 2, 2008  
Will Allen  
**Talk Title:** "The War on Bugs"  
(Co-sponsored by Chelsea Green Publishing)  
Author of *The War on Bugs*.

October 25, 2007  
Linda Faillace  
**Talk Title:** “Mad Sheep”  
(Co-sponsored by Chelsea Green Publishing)  
Author of *Mad Sheep: The True Story of the USDA’s War on a Family Farm*.

March 26, 2007  
Joan Dye Gussow  
**Talk Title:** “Home Food: From Scary Spinach to Hardy Mache”  
Author, nutritionist, and organic foods expert.